**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

applicant(s): Casas-Bejar et al

Docket:

P7109

Serial No.:

09/063,227

Group Art:

3762

Filed:

April 20, 1998

Examiner:

Gring

Title:

MEDICAL ELECTRICAL LEADS AND INDWELLING CATHETERS

WITH ENHANCED BIOCOMPATIBILITY AND BIOSTABILITY

Honorable Commissioner For Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

## RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Sir:

The following is submitted in response to the Official Action mailed November 12, 1999. Please amend the above application as follows:

## In the Specification

On page 2, please delete lines 23-27.

Please delete pages 3 and 4 in their entireties.

Please all material on page 5 prior to line 11 in its entirety.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 20-23 and 25 in their entireties.

Please amend claims 13, 27, 29, 33 and 34 as follows:

13. (Amended) An indwelling catheter comprising:

an elongate body having a proximal end, a distal end, a tissue-contacting surface, and at least one interior lumen therethrough; and

an external fitting coupled to the proximal end;

wherein the tissue-contacting surface of the elongate body comprises an overcoating of a non-porous polymet in [intimate contact with] which a steroidal anti-inflammatory agent is incorporated.